

Regular Meeting of the
Downtown Development Authority
Thursday, December 9, 2010
Broward Center for the Performing Arts
New River Room

ROLL CALL

COMMUNICATIONS TO CITY COMMISSION

Mr. Scherer made a motion giving Mr. Wren the authority to enter into a lease for up to six months, subleasing it to the City for a minimum of 3 months, not exceeding \$50,000 from the undesignated capital projects fund. Mr. Petrillo seconded the motion and by roll call vote, all members approved.

BOARD PRESENT: D. Fredrico Fazio, Chairman
Tim Petrillo, Treasurer
William R. Scherer, Board Member
John Ropes, Board Member

NOT PRESENT: Dennis F. O'Shea, Vice-Chairman
Gregory Durden, Secretary
William H. Bodenhamer, Jr., Board Member

ALSO PRESENT:

John M. Milledge, DDA Legal Counsel	Cindi Hutchinson
Chris Wren, DDA Executive Director	Captain Gillis
Elizabeth Van Zandt, Planning & Design Manager	Genia Ellis
Marti Brown, Administrative Coordinator	Ron Centamore
Chadwick Blue, Urban Planner	Scott Wyman
Kate Sheffield, Planning Assistant	Courtney Crush
Neil Sterling	Doug Tober

PRESIDING: D. Fredrico Fazio, Chairman

Chairman Fazio called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m. Roll call was taken by Marti Brown. All Board members were present with the exception of Mr. O'Shea, Mr. Durden and Mr. Bodenhamer.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Fazio asked if anyone wanted to pull or discuss any items on consent. Hearing no comments on the Consent Agenda, Chairman Fazio asked if there was a motion approving the Consent Agenda. *A motion was moved by Mr. Petrillo and seconded by Mr. Ropes. All Board members were in favor.* The following items were unanimously approved:

- C-1) Approval of the minutes and follow-ups from the November 18, 2010 DDA Regular Board Meeting
- C-2) Amendment of Outdoor Event Application-Mercedes-Benz Corporate Run, 3/23/11-3/25/11

C-3) Approval of Outdoor Event Application-Relay for Life, 5/21/11-5/22/11

REGULAR AGENDA**R-1 Police Report**

Captain Gillis said that last month remained status quo as far as incidents. He talked about resident and business burglaries. He said vehicle burglaries rose from 6 to 7 and larcenies were the same at 16. He said 2nd Street still remains an issue saying there were 4 robberies this month and one last month and they are mostly crimes of opportunity. He said they will soon be passing out "Don't be a Victim of Crime" pamphlets, estimating 100 per day to be handed out. The Board thanked the Captain.

R-2 Federal Grants

Mrs. Van Zandt said that at the Chairman's request, she prepared a memo on the Federal Grant process. Chairman Fazio thanked her and said it was very thorough and helpful. Mrs. Van Zandt said there is a meeting set up Monday with Chairman Fazio as the committee of one to go over the streetscape grant and proposed expenditures. She said they met with Broward County Traffic Engineering (BCTED) regarding the ITS grant and it was very productive. She said she provided a list of approximately 8 problem intersections in the downtown (signal timing, pedestrian crossing problems, etc.) and the County agreed to fix the majority of them without using the ITS grant funds. She indicated the next meeting will be with all the partners including FDOT, Broward County Transit and the BCTED to determine the best use of the ITS funds.

Chairman Fazio explained that the ITS grant is for \$711,165 and there is also approximately \$1.1 million for streetscapes. Chairman Fazio added that the Board committed \$110,000 to help the Museum of Art with their light project within the public right of way.

Mrs. Van Zandt said that as outlined in her memo, a sub-recipient agreement must be entered into between the DDA and the County to be able to receive federal funds, as the County is the federal grant recipient. She indicated a sub-recipient agreement for the alternatives analysis consultant work was being recommended for approval. Mrs. Van Zandt and Mr. Milledge explained further so the Board understood why the agreement was needed and after which, ***Mr. Ropes made a motion giving Mr. Wren authorization to sign the sub-recipient agreement with Broward County for the Alternative Analysis Grant. Mr. Petrillo seconded. By roll call vote Mr. Petrillo, Mr. Ropes and Chairman Fazio voted yes with Mr. Scherer voted no.***

R-3 Consultant Services for Huizenga Plaza-Environmental

Mr. Wren said the City is looking at the storm sewer capacity in the downtown and they've hired a consultant. He said the City has indicated there needs to be an easement through Huizenga Plaza to expand the City's water and sewer infrastructure to maintain current capacity for north and south of the river and for future growth. He said the consultant identified Huizenga Plaza as the only place to do it. Mr. Wren said he feels the easement could pose a potential impediment on the park impairing the ability for future uses. Mr. Wren said that Stephen Botek has looked into the issue and that he's discussed this with Mr. Milledge and feels the Board should hire an expert to see if this is technically the only option. Chairman Fazio said you normally do not give easements away and the Board discussed this further. Mr. Scherer asked whether there will be a grating on top of it or dirt and Mr. Blue said the City has assured staff, it will appear as it does now. Discussion was held after which Mr. Ropes asked about hiring a consultant and having the City cover the cost. Mr. Scherer asked

what the zoning in the park was and the impact that could have regarding the easement. Mr. Milledge said he could look into that issue. After discussion, ***Mr. Ropes made a motion that Arcadis be hired on the condition that the City pay the cost involved. Mr. Petrillo seconded. All were in favor.***

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

D-1 News Articles

Mr. Wren said there are various articles in the package.

D-2 Approval of 2011 DDA Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Wren said the proposed schedule for 2011 is in the package. No objection was made to the dates.

D-3 Update on Awning Right of Way Permitting

Mr. Wren said they will continue to work on this issue and that the City has discussed this internally. He said he'd like to see a handbook created on the process. Chairman Fazio said they are trying to make the awning process easier. He added that Dennis from the City came back with good information. He said they are trying to get an architect to come back with guidelines and the type of awning the City will be happy with. **Mr. Milledge suggested using Tony Abbate and added that he has students that could possibly help work on this. Mr. Wren said that's a great idea.**

2011 Appropriations

Mr. Ropes asked what the 2010 appropriations were. Mr. Wren provided the figures and the levels currently being contemplated in session. He said the request was reduced and may get eliminated entirely. Mr. Milledge said there are currently two ways to get assistance – through earmarks or through the FTA budget. He said their strategy should be to talk with the Delegation on their recommendations given the recent change on earmarks. He said there is a meeting with Congressman-Elect West next week and then they should meet with Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Alcee Hastings. Mr. Milledge said the focus is to get rated and ask the FTA to approve them as part of their budget process. The Board discussed support for the project and Mr. Wren said they should know where the rating stands by spring.

D-4 Recurring Wednesday Lunch Time Vendors in the Park

Mr. Wren said there is an opportunity for a partnership with Riverwalk Trust. He said they are looking to have organic vegetables set up in the park for lunch time as a pilot program coupled with possible performances that's he's discussed with Kelley Shanley, Broward Center President. He said he also talked with Mary Becht, Broward County Cultural Director about artists in the park. He said they are trying to create activity in the downtown. Cindi Hutchinson said they will be discussing this at their Executive Board meeting on December 22nd and that there are a few hurdles to get through, such as insurance and who pays for it. She said these types of vendors usually don't carry insurance. She said this could be a good asset to the downtown.

Tunnel Park

Mr. Ropes asked about the status of Tunnel Park. Mr. Wren said he talked with Paul Bohlander and Al Carbon from the City and they are finishing up a dispute with the existing contract and are about to award the 2nd phase. Mr. Blue said the City indicated they plan on the RFP and bid being awarded by February or March. Mr. Scherer expressed concern about it just sitting there with no maintenance

on the trees and asked whether the City will leave it like that during construction. Mr. Wren said he'd find out more details and said he asks them regularly. **After discussion, the Board requested a letter be sent to the District Commissioner. Mr. Blue said staff is in the middle of setting up a meeting with Vice-Mayor Rogers to discuss this. Mr. Wren asked the Board for a volunteer to attend that meeting and Mr. Ropes said he would attend.**

Bond Issue/Refinancing

Mr. Scherer asked about the bond issue and whether there are any monies for the south side and how much was allocated. Mr. Wren said the bond issue was recently fixed (through a refinance, extending the terms of the loan). He said the remaining balance from the streetscape projects (approximately \$2 million) was allocated to help pay down the bond problem, which can now be re-designated for projects. He said he plans to bring this item back to the Board in the next few months. He said \$1.5 million was originally allocated for south of the river and \$1 million was allocated for the north side. Discussion was held.

Homeless Site

Mr. Petrillo asked for an update. Mr. Wren said he and Mr. Petrillo went to the last City Commission meeting. Mr. Wren said he submitted the letter on the Board's behalf. He said the Commission approved a pilot project on the site the Board supported in Progresso Village. He said the Commission is trying to get a three month lease. He said the Commission asked the task force to look for a site in the southern part of the City as well. Mr. Petrillo said the owner of the property selected does not intend on doing a three month lease so in essence there is no current site. Discussion was held. Ron Centamore said he thought the owner would be amenable to a six month lease. He said they need a site so the police can enforce rules in Stranahan Park where this is an issue.

Mr. Scherer asked what type of lease they were talking about and Mr. Centamore said he knows the owner at the proposed site and believes he will be agreeable to a six month lease. Mr. Scherer suggested the DDA lease the property and then sublease it to the City. ***Mr. Scherer made a motion giving Mr. Wren the authority to enter into a lease for up to six months, subleasing it to the City for a minimum of 3 months, not exceeding \$50,000 from the undesignated capital projects fund. Mr. Petrillo seconded the motion and by roll call vote, all members approved.***

Mr. Petrillo said that this is Mr. Scherer's last meeting and took the opportunity on behalf of the Board to thank him for his years of service. After brief discussion, Mr. Wren said the Board will present him with an award at the January meeting.

As there was no other business, Chairman Fazio adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.